

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claim 65

Please amend claims 1, 5, 17, 18, 29, 41, 46, 51, 54, 56 and 59 as shown below.

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for a database search system, the method comprising:
receiving a list of search terms associated with an advertiser on the database search
system, the database search system including a database having stored therein a
plurality of search listings which are associated with an advertiser, at least one
search term, a money amount, and a computer network location;
determining candidate search terms based on search terms of other advertisers on the
database search system; and
recommending ~~the~~ additional search terms from among the candidate search terms.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining candidate search terms
comprises:
assigning ratings to search terms; and
computing a correlation between the advertiser and one or more of the other advertisers
using the assigned ratings of advertiser search terms.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
predicting a likelihood that a candidate search term will be relevant to the advertiser.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein predicting comprises:

determining a quality metric for the candidate search terms; and
predicting relevance of candidate search terms based on the quality metric.

5. (Currently amended) A method for a database search system, the method comprising:
maintaining a database of search listings, each search listing being associated with an
advertiser and including associated search terms, a money amount and a computer
network location;

receiving a list of search terms associated with an advertiser;
computing ratings for search terms; and
recommending additional search terms to the advertiser based on the computed ratings.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein computing ratings comprises:
assigning ratings to search terms.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein computing ratings comprises:
predicting ratings for search terms.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein receiving a list of search terms comprises:
receiving a list of initial search terms from the advertiser.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein receiving a list of search terms comprises:
identifying an existing advertiser on the database search system; and
forming the list of search terms from search terms of the existing advertiser.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein receiving a list of search terms comprises:
receiving a website uniform resource locator (URL); and
spidering the website associated with the URL to extract search terms for the list of
search terms.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein spidering the website comprises:

receiving data from pages of the website;
recording candidate search terms from the data; and
determining a quality metric for each candidate search term.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
sorting the candidate search terms according to the quality metric; and
recommending only candidate search terms having a quality metric exceeding a
threshold.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein spidering comprises:
receiving data from one or more pages of the website; and
examining text from the one or more pages for candidate search terms.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein examining text comprises:
examining substantially all text from the one or more pages; and
examining meta tags from the one or more pages.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein receiving a website URL comprises:
receiving the advertiser's URL as the web site URL.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein receiving a website URL comprises:
receiving the web site URL from the advertiser.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 further comprising:
receiving at an input device a search query from a user;
searching for matching search terms in the database of search listings;
preparing search results by formatting matching search terms according to advertiser bid
amounts associated with the search listings; and
communicating the search results to the user.

18. (Original) A database search system comprising:

a database of search terms, each search term being associated with one or more
advertisers, a money amount and a computer network location, the search
terms being searchable in response to a query received from a user to identify
search terms which match the query, matching search listings being returnable
to the user in a search result list in which the matching search listings are
ordered using the money amounts for the respective matching search listings;
and
program code configured to recommend additional search terms for an advertiser based
on search terms in the database.

19. (Original) The database search system of claim 18 wherein the program code
comprises:

collaborative filtering code configured to recommend the additional search terms
based on search terms associated with other advertisers of the database search
system.

20. (Original) The database search system of claim 19 wherein the collaborative
filtering code comprises Pearson correlation code.

21. (Original) The database search system of claim 19 wherein the program code
comprises:

a program loop to iterate the collaborative filtering code.

22. (Currently amended) The database search system of claim [[18]] 21 further
comprising:

code to receive accept indications or [[and]] reject indications from the advertiser
before repeating the program loop.

23. (Original) The database search system of claim 18 wherein the program code comprises:

spidering code to recommend the additional search terms.

24. (Original) The database search system of claim 18 wherein the program code comprises:

spidering code to find initially accepted search terms in a web site; and
collaborative filtering code to provide the recommended additional search terms.

25. (Original) The database search system of claim 24 wherein the spidering code is configured to spider a web site of the advertiser.

26. (Original) The database search system of claim 23 wherein the spidering code is configured to spider a web site specified by the advertiser.

27. (Original) The database search system of claim 18 further comprising:
filtering code to filter candidate search terms according to a quality metric to produce the recommended additional search terms.

28. (Original) The database search system of claim 15 further comprising:
search engine program code configured to search the database in response to a search query from a user.

29. (Currently amended) A data base operating method for a database search system storing advertiser search listing, the method comprising:

spidering a specified web site to obtain an initial list of advertiser search terms for an advertiser;

filtering the initial list of advertiser search terms using search terms of other advertisers;
and

storing in a search listing database search listings for the advertiser, the search listings formed with the filtered search terms, the search listing database being searchable by a search engine web server which identifies listings having a search term matching a search query entered by a user, orders the identified listings using advertiser bid amounts associated with the search term in the search listing and generates a result list including at least some of the ordered listings.

30. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 wherein the specified web site comprises an advertiser specified website.

31. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 wherein the specified web site comprises a website specified by the database search system.

32. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 further comprising:
assigning ratings to search terms; and
computing a correlation between the advertiser and one or more of the other advertisers using the assigned ratings of advertiser search terms.

33. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 32 further comprising:
predicting a likelihood that a search term will be relevant to the advertiser.

34. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 33 wherein predicting comprises:

determining a quality metric for candidate search terms; and
predicting relevance of candidate search terms based on the quality metric.

35. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 wherein spidering the specified web site comprises:

receiving data from pages of the specified website;
recording candidate search terms from the data; and
determining a quality metric for each candidate search term.

36. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 35 further comprising:
sorting the candidate search terms according to the quality metric; and
recommending only candidate search terms having a quality metric exceeding a
threshold.

37. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 wherein filtering comprises:
determining a correlation between a web site of the advertiser and web sites of other
advertisers on the database search system;
using the correlation, determining ratings for each advertiser search term in the initial list
of advertiser search terms; and
organizing search terms of the initial list of advertiser search terms according to the
ratings.

38. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 29 further comprising:
presenting the organized search terms to the advertiser;
receiving advertiser acceptance indications for the organized search terms;
adjusting the list of advertiser search terms according to the acceptance indications; and
filtering the adjusted list.

39. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 38 further comprising:
iteratively presenting the organized search terms, receiving revised advertiser acceptance
indications, and adjusting the list of advertiser search terms.

40. (Original) The data base operating method of claim 38 further comprising:
receiving a search query from a user;
searching for matching search terms in the search listing database;

preparing search results by formatting matching search terms according to advertiser bid amounts associated with the matching search listings; and
communicating the search results to the user.

41. (Currently amended) A method for a database search system, the method comprising:

receiving a search term of an advertiser, the search term being associated with a search listing of the advertiser, the search listing being stored in a search listing database of search listings, the search listing database being searchable by a search engine web server which identifies listings having a search term matching a search query entered by a user, orders the identified listings using advertiser bid amounts associated with the search term in the search listing and generates a result list including at least some of the ordered listings;

in response to the received search term, generating a list of additional related search terms; and

receiving advertiser selected search terms from the list of additional related search terms.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein generating the list of additional search terms comprises:

matching one or more text strings from the received search term with a database of search terms.

43. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein generating the list of additional search terms comprises:

matching one or more text strings from the received search term with a thesaurus.

44. (Original) The method of claim 41 further comprising:

displaying a form for entering one or more search listings for a selected search term.

45. (Original) The method of claim 42 further comprising:

entering the selected search term as a default value in each of the one or more search listings

46. (Currently amended) A method for recommending search terms in a pay for placement market system, the method comprising:
receiving information describing an advertiser who maintains search listings in the pay for placement market system; and
recommending search terms based on the advertiser's similarity to other advertisers.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising:
assigning ratings based on the information describing the advertiser and information describing the other advertisers; and
recommending search terms based at least in part on the ratings.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising:
predicting ratings for the advertiser and the other advertisers based on the information describing the advertiser and information describing the other advertisers; and
recommending search terms based at least in part on the ratings.

49. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising:
computing correlations for the advertiser and the other advertisers based on the information describing the advertiser and information describing the other advertisers; and
recommending search terms based at least in part on the correlations.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49 wherein computing correlations comprises:
computing Pearson correlations.

51. (Currently amended) A method for recommending search terms in a pay for placement market system, the method comprising:
downloading web pages rooted at a specified uniform resource locator (URL); and

recommending to an advertiser who maintains search listings in the pay for placement market system search terms that appear in the body text of the web pages.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:
identifying an advertiser having a web site;
specifying the advertiser's web site as the specified URL.

53. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:
receiving a web site identifier from an advertiser as the specified URL.

54. (Currently amended) A method for recommending search terms to an advertiser who maintains search listings in a pay for placement market system, each search listing including one or more search terms, the method comprising:
receiving a uniform resource locator (URL);
downloading web pages rooted at the URL; and
recommending to the advertiser search terms that appear in the web pages to the advertiser.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54 further comprising:
identifying an advertiser having a web site;
receiving the advertiser's web site as the URL.

56. (Currently amended) A method for recommending search terms to an advertiser who maintains search listings in a pay for placement market system, each search listing including one or more search term, the method comprising:
calculating a quality metric for candidate search terms, the quality metric for a respective candidate search term being a function of the respective search term's web frequency and a function of a search term's search frequency; and
recommending search terms for which the calculated quality metric exceeds a quality threshold

57. (Original) The method of claim 56 further comprising:
sorting the candidate search terms according to a second metric.

58. (Original) The method of claim 56 further comprising:
automatically calibrating the quality threshold.

59. (Original) A method for recommending search terms to an advertiser who maintains search listings in a pay for placement market system incorporating ~~for~~ a database search system, the method comprising:

maintaining a database of search terms associated with advertiser listings;
receiving information describing ~~an~~ the advertiser; and
recommending search terms to the advertiser.

60. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
determining candidate search terms by collaborative filtering; and
recommending search terms from the candidate search terms.

61. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
downloading web pages rooted at a uniform resource locator; and
recommending the search terms based on terms that appear in body text of the web pages.

62. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
receiving a uniform resource locator (URL);
downloading web pages rooted at the URL; and
recommending search terms based on terms that appear in the web pages.

63. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising:

calculating a quality metric for candidate search terms, the quality metric for a respective candidate search term being a function of the respective search term's web frequency and a function of a search term's search frequency; and recommending the search terms based on search terms for which the calculated quality metric exceeds a quality threshold

64. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
receiving feedback from the advertiser on the recommended search terms; and
changing the recommended search terms based on the feedback.

65. (Cancelled)